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Plague in Tokyo; infection spreading—Plague death at Shimonoseki from steamship Keijo Maru from Osaka.

During the week ended July 15, 1905, bills of health were issued to 4 steamships having an aggregate personnel of 777 crew and 91 passengers.

Yokohama seems to continue free from grave quarantinable disease, excluding leprosy. The same statement applies to Kobe and Nagasaki.

After a period of quiescence, plague has again made its appearance in Tokyo in spite of the rigid preventive measures that have been enforced. In that city a plague death occurred on the 19th instant, the patient having been previously removed from his residence in Fukagawa Ku (Tokyo) to the Honjo Infectious Disease Hospital. Another plague death was announced on the 20th instant in the same institution, the patient having been a resident of Honjo Ku, an employee of a dealer in waste paper, rags, etc. Among the members of this latter household an additional case of plague has since developed, making in all 3 cases of plague that have been reported in Tokyo since the date of my last letter. The occurrence of 2 cases of the disease in Honjo Ku indicates that the infection is spreading. On the 19th instant a plague-infected rat was found in Fukagawa Ku (Tokyo).

Shimonoseki telegrams report that a death from plague occurred in a hospital at that place on July 17. This patient's previous history shows that he had resided in Osaka from July 11 to July 15, on which latter date he took passage by the Osaka Shosen Kaisha's steamship *Keijo Maru* for Korea. Becoming ill during the voyage, he landed at Shimonoseki, where he died, as above stated. It would seem that the infection was contracted at Osaka, where a plague death occurred on May 9. Through some oversight the *Keijo Maru* seems to have proceeded on her voyage to Fusan and Mokpo without having been subjected to suitable sanitary measures.

MEXICO.

Reports from Progreso—Inspection and fumigation of vessels—Mortality.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Harrison reports, July 30 and August 7, as follows:

During the week ended July 31, 1905, no quarantinable disease was reported here or in Merida.

The following vessels were dispatched:

July 26, steamship *Orion*, British, to Galveston; crew, 37; fumigated.

July 26, steamship *Telefon*, Norwegian, to Mobile; crew, 19; passengers, 1; fumigated.

July 28, steamship *Matanzas*, American, to United States via Tampico; crew, 41.

July 29, steamship *Yucatan*, American, to New York via Habana; crew, 75; passengers from Progreso, 49 (to New York, 13).

July 30, steamship *Progreso*, Norwegian, Texas City; crew, 25; fumigated.

Week ended July 7, 1905.

Quarantinable diseases, none; deaths from other causes as follows: Gastro-enteritis, 3; malaria, 3; uremia, 1; pulmonary tuberculosis, 2;

meningitis, 1; pellagra, 1, pernicious fever, 1; hepatitis, 1; capillary bronchitis, 1; dysentery, 1; gastric fever, 1. Total for period July 23 to August 7, 1905, 16. Population from 6,000 to 7,000, probably.

Bills of health were issued to the following-named vessels:

August 1, schooner *Laguna*, Norwegian, from Europe to Gulfport, United States, via Progreso; crew, 9; fumigated.

August 2, steamship *Tjomo*, Norwegian, to New York via Campeche; crew, 17.

August 5, steamship *Orizaba*, American, from Veracruz to New York via Habana, with crew, 77; passengers from Progreso, 82 (to New York, 29).

August 6, steamship *Galveston*, Norwegian, to Texas City; crew, 19; passengers, 5; fumigated.

Report from Tampico—Inspection and fumigation of vessels—Mortality—Sanitary conditions.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Frick reports, August 7, as follows:

Week ended August 5, 1905.

August 2 inspected and passed American steamship *Matanzas*, bound for New York, via Cuba, with 41 in the crew and 6 passengers; vessel sails in general cargo and with live stock for Cuba. August 3 fumigated and passed Norwegian steamship *Dagfin*, bound for Galveston, via Port Arthur, with 21 in the crew; vessel sails in a small cargo of ixtle. Inspected and passed British steamship *Senator*, bound for Galveston, via Veracruz, with 39 in the crew; vessel sails in general cargo. While the *Senator* was here there occurred aboard of her 4 cases of illness, and I therefore placed the following indorsement on her bill under the head of "remarks:":

Second steward left in hospital, certificate of hospital physician attached, paludism; chief cook has a temperature of $38\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ C., pulse 96; taken sick this morning. Engineer, steward, and 2 cooks had rises of temperature yesterday; clear to-day. Ship's physician's certificate attached. Regarding the last 3, cases indicate malaria, as far as I can obtain history.

August 4, inspected and passed British steamship *Tripoli*, bound for a point north of Hatteras via Cardenas, Cuba, with 26 in the crew; vessel sails in ballast.

August 5, inspected and passed Spanish steamship *Porto Rico*, bound for New Orleans, with 52 in the crew; vessel sails in ballast. The *Porto Rico* declined to fumigate here. On arrival of this vessel 1 sailor was found sick and taken to the civil hospital, but was next day allowed to return to the vessel. I placed the following indorsement on her bill:

One sailor—temperature, $38\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$ C. Hospital physician's certificate attached, "Gastric fever." Temperature, from history, rises and falls alternate days. Pulse, 88. Nothing suspicious at present examination.

Mortuary report.—Diarrhea and enteritis, 2; diarrhea, 2; enteritis, 1; fistula in ano, 1; congenital debility, 1; tuberculosis, pulmonary, 2; paludism, 2; tetanus, 1. Estimated population, 20,000. Annual rate for the week, 31.20.

Sanitary situation.—I believe the situation has improved somewhat during the last week. Because of the exceedingly dry and hot weather of the last two weeks and the large amount of filling in of streets, lots, etc., in the lower portions of the city, many favorable resting places of the mosquitoes have been destroyed.